

North Dakota State Board of Higher Education

Special Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education Academic and Student Affairs Committee met on November 22, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. CT.

SBHE Academic and Student Affairs Committee members

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Curtis Biller, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Max Eriksrud |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Kevin Black | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Lisa Montplaisir, Faculty Advisor |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. DJ Campbell | |

Institution Presidents/Representatives

BSC Dr. Dan Leingang, Dr. Kaylyn Bondy **DCB** Dean Carmen Simone, Mr. Corey Gorder, Ms. Kayla O'Toole, **DSU** Dr. Holly Gruhlke, **LRSC** President Darling, Mr. Lloyd Halvorson, **MaSU** Dr. Brian Huschle, Mr. Corday Goddard, **MiSU** President Shirley, Dr. Laurie Geller, Mr. Kevin Harmon, **NDSCS** President Flanigan, Dr. Lisa Karch, Ms. Melissa Johnson, **NDSU** Dr. David Bertolini, Dr. Stacy Duffield **UND** Dr. Eric Link, Ms. Janelle Kilgore, **VCSU** President LaFave, Mr. Larry Brooks, Mr. Mark Nelson, **WSC** Dr. Zahi Atallah,

System Office/CTS/Guests

NDUS Chancellor Hagerott, VC. Lisa Johnson, VC. David Krebsbach, VC. Jerry Rostad, Mr. Mark Gorenflo, Dr. Jen Weber, Ms. Claire Gunwall, Mr. Chris Pieske, Ms. Kristie Hetzler, Ms. Dina Cashman, Ms. Jane Grinde, Dr. Billie Jo Lorus, Ms. Bethany Kadrmaz, Ms. Caitlin Magilke, Ms. Katie Fitzsimmons, Ms. Sharon Schwartzbauer, Ms. Mindy Sturn, Ms. Jamie Wilke, **CTS** Mr. Corey Quirk, **AG** Ms. Meredith Larson

Call to Order

Committee Chair Biller called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. CT.

1. Institution Organization Notice
 - a. North Dakota State University
 - i. [Center for Institutional Ethnography in Education](#)
 - ii. [Center for Science and Mathematics Education](#)
 1. VC. Lisa Johnson presented the Institution Organization Notices for NDSU. No questions or comments were expressed.

Black moved, Eriksrud seconded, to approve the Institution Organization notices for NDSU as presented.

Black, Cambell, Eriksrud, and Biller voted yes. Motion passed 4-0.

2. College Credit in High School
 - a. [Policy 469 College Credit in High School and Policy 805.1 Tuition](#)

- i. Committee Chair Biller shared that UND has always offered a dual credit program at Red River High School just for aviation and there are concerns that with policy language being updated, it's not clearly stated within policy that UND can still offer those specific courses.
- ii. Mr. Chris Pieske suggested adding subsection 4 to the policy to state that UND is authorized to offer dual credit aviation courses in Grand Forks County. Mr. Lloyd Halvorson shared that UND has also offered Cultural Diversity Courses specific to Native Americans to high school students and recommends that UND be able to still offer those courses.
- iii. Member Eriksrud commented that he does not support the idea of ruling out specific schools for an entire county as it seems like one university is being chosen over the other.
- iv. Dr. Eric Link commented that he would support language that allows UND or other institutions to offer specific unique dual credit courses that can only be offered by that specific institution.
 - 1. Black moved, Campbell seconded, to add language to Policy 469 section 1, b, ii stating "when the course being offered is so unique that it can only be offered by that institution."
 - a. Dr. Brian Huschle shared proposed language presented to the Academic Affairs Council meeting in March 2024 that states "NDSU and UND are authorized to offer dual credit under two specific circumstances: first, when the course being offered can only be offered by that institution; second, when either institution is required to offer dual credit in order to fulfill a legislative mandate (e.g. Governor's School or similar programs). "
 - b. President Flanigan asked if changing policy language would best serve the interests of the students across the state and align with the two-year missions. Furthermore, President Flanigan shared that NDSCS could potentially see a \$1.5-2 million revenue loss and would have to cut services to students.
 - 2. Black moved, Campbell seconded, to amend the first motion and move to add language to Policy 469 section 1, b, ii stating "NDUS and UND are authorized to offer dual credit under two specific circumstances: first, when the course being offered can only be offered by that institution; second, when either institution is required to offer dual credit in order to fulfill a legislative mandate (e.g. Governor's School or similar programs)."

Black, Campbell, Eriksrud, and Biller voted yes. Motion passed 4-0.

b. [NDSU, NDSCS, and VCSU Dual Credit Agreement](#)

- i. Member Eriksrud shared concerns related to Policy 469 that may impact students in a variety of ways. For example, students may lose out on mental health services, career services, etc., and the financial impact to VCSU is also a concern. Committee Chair Biller commented that within the MOA it addresses the fact that the agreement would not cause a significant financial impact. Additionally, Committee Chair Biller stated that there are safeguards in place to ensure the agreement will be reviewed on an annual basis.

- ii. Member Eriksrud shared concerns related to face-to-face course offerings tuition cost and the impact it may cause.
 - 1. Black moved, Campbell seconded, to approve Policy 469 as amended.
Black, Campbell, and Biller voted yes. Eriksrud voted no. Motion passed 3-1.
 - iii. VC. Lisa Johnson shared the edits in Policy 805.1 clarify that the SBHE will set tuition rates for early entry and dual credits course offerings. Additionally, clarifying language was added to section 7, d stating that students who elect to earn credit for prior learning through testing or other methods defined by the institution shall not exceed 50% of the regular resident or nonresident per credit hour tuition rate.
 - 1. Eriksrud moved, Black seconded, to approve Policy 805.1 as presented.
Black, Campbell, Eriksrud, and Biller voted yes. Motion passed 4-0.
3. [Online State Authorization Proposal](#)
- a. VC. Lisa Johnson shared that all NDUS institutions belong to a compact or educational consortium like MHEC or WICHE and this enables the NDUS to have reciprocity to operate in other states. The SBHE must decide how to handle online providers who are either not part of or have been removed from a compact or consortium.
 - b. Ms. Claire Gunwall presented and discussed 3 separate proposals to consider moving forward related to out-of-state online providers.
 - i. Option 1 would require institutions wishing to operate in North Dakota to become a member of NC-SARA. NC-SARA is a nationwide agreement that simplifies the processes for out-of-state institutions to offer online programs across participating states. Currently, there are over 2,400 institutions that participate in NC-SARA including 14 North Dakota institutions. The NC-SARA membership would require institutions to meet accreditation standards, demonstrate financial stability, have transparency with their student resolution process, and comply with academic standards. California is one state that does not participate in NC-SARA, which limits student's access to certain programs who reside in that state.
 - 1. Committee Chair Biller asked how many current providers this option would impact within the state of North Dakota. Ms. Gunwall shared that out of the 40-50 institutions she processes yearly, three-fourths of those are from California.
 - ii. Option 2 would require institutions to meet North Dakota compliance requirements. This would mean that out-of-state institutions not currently members of NC-SARA would have to meet specific state-level requirements before offering programs in North Dakota. This is the current process used by NDUS and on average, approximately 2-8 hours of time each week are dedicated to reviewing and processing applications. Currently, there is a \$250 fee for applicants, but if the SBHE chooses this option there would be a proposed fee increase.
 - 1. Member Campbell commented that any fee should cover the cost of processing applications.
 - iii. Option 3 would be approval by other organizations. This would allow out-of-state institutions to operate in North Dakota if they are already

approved and recognized by their accrediting bodies or federal programs. This could cause less rigorous oversight which could lead to risks of low quality or institutions that lack clarity for students regarding their rights and their complaint process.

Dr. Lisa Monplaisir shared that CCF would be in support of option 1, requiring out-of-state institutions to be members of NC-SARA.

Black moved, Eriksrud seconded, to approve option 1 as the process for regulating out-of-state institutions operating online in North Dakota.

Black, Cambell, Eriksrud, and Biller voted yes. Motion passed 4-0.

Adjourn

Committee Chair Biller adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m. CT.

Approved January 23, 2025.